

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 173997

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ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CPR-01 NSC-05 PA-02 SS-15 USIA-15

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DRAFTED BY AF/W:EESVENDSEN:JWM (TEXT RECEIVED FROM WH

APPROVED BY AF:CAJAMES

S/S-S:RPERSIKO (7614143)

S/S: MR. BRIDGES

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

UNCLAS STATE 173997

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, US, SL

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO FOURTH OF JULY MESSAGE TO THE
PRESIDENT FROM SIERRA LEONEAN PRESIDENT STEVENS

1. FOLLOWING MESSAGE WAS RECEIVED AT WHITE HOUSE FROM
PRESIDENT STEVENS. QUOTE THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TODAY CELEBRATES TWO CENTURIES OF INDEPENDENCE AND STAND ON
A THRESHOLD OF A THIRD CENTURY. THIS IS NO MEAN ACHIEVE-
MENT. ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF SIERRA
LEONE I WARMLY AND ENTHUSIASTICALLY CONGRATULATE YOUR
GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE ON THIS AUSPICIOUS AND HISTORIC
OCCASION AS YOUR GREAT COUNTRY CONTINUES TO PLAY AN EVER
INCREASING ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS. I PRAY THAT THE
IDEALS WHICH MOTIVATED YOUR FOUNDING FATHERS TO MAKE THAT
SOLEMN AND EPOCH-MAKING DECLARATION WILL CONTINUE TO INSPIRE
YOUR COUNTRY IN ITS QUEST FOR PEACE, FREEDOM, AND BETTER
STANDARDS OF LIVING FOR ALL MANKIND. HIGHEST CONSIDERATION,
SIKA STEVENS. UNQUOTE.

2. FOLLOWING RESPONSE FROM PRESIDENT FORD SHOULD BE
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DELIVERED PRESIDENT STEVENS: QUOTE DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, MRS. FORD AND I THANK YOU
FOR YOUR MOST WELCOME MESSAGE OF GOOD WISHES ON THE

COMMEMORATION OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATION'S
INDEPENDENCE.

AS WE ENTER OUR THIRD CENTURY, THE UNITED STATES
REDEDICATES ITSELF IN WORD AND DEED TO THE PRINCIPLES OF
LIBERTY, EQUALITY AND INDIVIDUAL DIGNITY. WE DO SO WITH
THE ANTICIPATION AND CONFIDENCE THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN
OUR COUNTRIES WILL CONTINUE TO FLOURISH. SINCERELY,
GERALD R. FORD. UNQUOTE.

3. NO RELEASE INTENDED, BUT NO OBJECTION IF RECIPIENT
WISHES TO DO SO.

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Message Attributes

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